

Message Text

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ACTION COA-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 SMI-01 INT-08 COME-00 IO-12 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3785

UNCLAS TOKYO 5842

PASS NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE/ NAKATSU AND FRITZ
S/ FW- COA

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EFIS, TBIO, XP, JA, US, UK

SUBJECT: WHALES: US- JAPAN WHALE OBSERVER AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 82687, TOKYO 5663, STATE 87978

1. GOJ WILLING TO SIGN AGREEMENT FOR WHALE OBSERVERS JAPAN COASTAL STATIONS AND HAVE FORWARDED BY CABLE DRAFT WITH MINOR MODIFICATION TO JAPAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON MAY 4. FONOFF SUPRISED DEPARTMENT HAS NOT YET RECEIVED THIS DRAFT.

2. REVISIONS IN 1972 AGREEMENT ARE:

(A) ARTICLE 2 (B) FROM THE OBSERVERS SO NOMINATED, THE COMMISSION SHALL APPOINT ONE OR MORE OBSERVERS TO A LAND STATION OR GROUP OF LAND STATIONS ENGAGED IN WHALING IN THE NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN.

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(B) ARTICLE 3 (3) AN OBSERVER SHALL BE ENABLED TO OBSERVE FREELY THE OPERATIONS OF THE LAND STATIONS OR GROUPS OF STATIONS TO WHICH HE IS APPOINTED, SO THAT HE MAY VERYFI THE OBSERVANCE OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONVENTION IN REGARD TO THE TAKING
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OF WHALES AND THEIR RATIONAL UTILIZATION, PROVIDED THAT NOT MORE THAN ONE OBSERVER SHALL BE AT A LAND STATION OR GROUP OF LAND STATIONS AT ONE TIME.....

ALTHOUGH ADMITTEDLY THIS MODIFICATION DOES NOT REALLY SATISFY THE U. S.

PROPOSAL TO ALLOW OBSERVERS TO ASSIST EACH OTHER DURING PEAK PERIODS
OF KILL, IT DOES REPRESENT SOME CONCESSION AND APPEARS TO BE AS FAR AS GOJ WILLING TO GO AT THIS TIME.

3. GOJ DOES NOT FEEL THAT THE SECOND U. S. PROPOSAL, THAT IS TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE OBSERVERS TO COLLECT CERTAIN RESEARCH SPECIMENS FROM WPES AND IN EFFECT, TO ACT AS ASSISTANTS IN WHALE RESEARCH TO THE JAPANESE BIOLOGISTS, IS AN APPROPRIATE ITEM TO INCLUDE IN THE WHALE OBSERVER AGREEMENT. INSTEAD, THE FISHERY AGENCY WILL HANDLE THIS REQUEST ADMINISTRATIVELY AND HAS ALREADY DISCUSSED THE U. S. REQUEST WITH THE INDUSTRY AND THEIR BIOLOGISTS AND FORSEES NO DIFFICULTY.

4. FONOFF ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT TIMEING AND HOPES TQT THE AGREEMENT CAN BE SIGNED IN WASHINGTON AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE PREFERABLY BEFORE MAY 15 (NEXT TUESDAY) SOTHAT THE AGREEMENT CAN BE SUBMITTED FOR CABINET APPROVAL ON MAY 18 OR 22.

5. FURTHER FONOFF EXPECTS NO OBJECTION FROM THE CABINET AND SUGGESTS U. S. OBSERVES STILL PLAN TO COME TO JAPAN ON OR ABOUT MAY 20 AND THAT THE WHALING COMMISSION MAIL THEIR CREDENTIALS TO THEM THROUGH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY AS DONE LAST YEAR.
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